Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The files relating to the admissibility of questions for the years 1100 and 1101 have been destroyed under orders. It is not therefore possible to supply the information.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know where was the necessity to destroy them?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Because, Government did not think any useful purpose will be served by reserving them in stock.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is only two years old.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Files of 1100 and 1101—They are more than 6 years old.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Then what about the remaining ones?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The question is with regard to the whole time ever since the Council was inaugurated. I cannot answer that question because files of 1100 and 1101 have been destroyed.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Could not they answer the question with regard to the remaining years?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The answer will not be complete then. The question is with regard to the total number of disallowed questions ever after the Cochin Legislative Council was established.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Can he not at least give the numbers with regard to the remaining years, including the present Council?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—If a fresh question is put asking for the information from the year 1102 onwards, the answer can be easily furnished.

Intimation of disallowed questions to Members—mention of authority for disallowing.

160. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether in intimations to members about disallowed questions all the sections and sub-sections warranting the disallowance are not mentioned?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Yes. They are mentioned.

Refusal to lend to Members originals of their questions.

161. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the grounds on which they refused to lend the Members of this House with the originals of their own respective questions;

(b) the practice followed in the matter ever so long?

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